

~~SECRET~~

NSC BRIEFING

26 January 1955

25X1X4< ZAHEDI'S REPLACEMENT INDICATED

- I. [REDACTED] point to growing certainty replacement Prime Minister Zahedi soon after Shah's return (late Feb).
- A. Political deterioration may force Shah shorten European visit.
- B. After several weeks of illness Zahedi, apparently recovered, has returned determined to regain control. Plans to oust his strong critic Abdol Ebtehaj, director of Seven Year Plan Organization. Uncertain how much he can do. Early showdown still likely.
- C. Several candidates for job.
- ALA + Hossein*
1. ~~Senator Eghal~~, university chancellor, believed Shah's present choice.
 2. Also in field -- retired generals Arfa, Kia, and Hossein Ala.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Approved For Release 2000/08/30 : CIA-RDP80R01443R000300220003-3

D. [REDACTED]

25X1X4

[REDACTED] Zahedi recently said, "I came in on a tank and if necessary I will go out on a tank." Nevertheless, prime minister has no control over sources of power and even one of staunchest supporters has advised him to quit before he thrown out.

E Shah agrees necessary replace Z. - Doesn't want American British interference

F Wants to know where stands

Approved For Release 2000/08/30 : CIA-RDP80R01443R000300220003-3

~~SECRET~~